



COVID-19 and the Courts

An update from Chief Justice Minton

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Update for March 26, 2020

Justices, Judges, Circuit Court Clerks and Kentucky Court of Justice Personnel:

Supreme Court issues new amendments to order limiting in-person court proceedings, extends restrictions to April 24

The Supreme Court has approved additional amendments to its administrative order restricting dockets, jury trials and jury service during the pandemic. The new amendments included in [Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-13](#), dated March 26, 2020, are:

1. Extends effective date of the order through April 24, 2020.
2. Section 1: Adds temporary child support and in-custody juvenile detention hearings to the list of “emergency or time-sensitive matters;” clarifies that judges must use telephonic or video technology to conduct all hearings, unless the parties are unable to participate remotely; limits in-person courtroom attendance to 10 people.
3. Section 2: Clarifies that judges may use telephonic or video technology to hear civil matters that require prompt attention.
4. Section 4: Clarifies that judges may use telephonic or video technology to hear probate matters that require prompt attention; also notes that Executive Order 2020-257 suspends all evictions during the State of Emergency.

Please note that [Administrative Order 2020-13](#), dated March 26, 2020, replaces in its entirety Administrative Order 2020-10, dated March 17, 2020. As this situation continues to evolve, the Judicial Branch will respond accordingly.

You can continue to email your questions to covid19@kycourts.net so that we can address your concerns. And you can find ongoing updates on the [COVID-19 and the Courts](#) webpage.

Thank you.



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